

Remarks

In response to the Office Action mailed on May 24, 2005, the Applicant sincerely requests reconsideration in view of the following remarks. The claims as presented are believed to be in allowable condition.

Claims 1, 2, 3, and 11 have been amended, claims 8 and 13 have been canceled, and new claim 16 has been added.. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate features from amended claim 2 and canceled claim 13. Claim 11 has been amended to incorporate features from canceled claim 13. New claim 16 is canceled claim 8 rewritten in independent form. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-15 are currently pending in the present application. Claims 1-15 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-15 of copending Application No. 09/955,624. Claims 1-3, 5, 11, and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Grenning et al. (US 5,706,333, hereinafter "Grenning"). Claims 4, 6-10, 12, and 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grenning in view of Moore et al. (U.S. 4,697,243, hereinafter "Moore").

Double Patenting

In the Office Action, claims 1-15 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-15 of copending Application No. 09/955,624. The aforementioned application is no longer pending due to it becoming abandoned on August 11, 2005. Therefore, the provisional double patenting rejection is moot in view of the abandonment of Application No. 09/955,624 and should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-3, 5, 11, and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Grenning. Claim 13 has been canceled. The rejection of the remaining claims is respectfully traversed.

Grenning discloses a method and apparatus for analyzing a cellular telephone network. In Grenning, a series of rules are utilized to identify faulty and suspected cellular telephones based on their Mobile Identification Numbers ("MINs"). The rules include a series of if-then statements, the "if" statements establishing the threshold for a particular problem and the "then" statements identifying the problem. (See Table 1, and col. 16, line 23 - col. 19, line 65).

Amended independent claim 1 specifies a computer-implemented method for troubleshooting a problem associated with a cellular network site. The method includes receiving a symptom input describing the symptoms of the problem, determining whether at least one of a plurality of rules is invoked by the symptom input, wherein the plurality of rules comprise a plurality of if-then statements, wherein the plurality of if-then statements comprise a plurality of if portions and a plurality of then portions, the then portions corresponding to potential solutions to the problem, and if so, then outputting a potential solution to the problem wherein the potential solution is determined by the invoked rule.

Grenning fails to teach, disclose, or suggest each and every feature specified in claim 1. For example, Grenning fails to disclose a plurality of rules comprise a plurality of if-then statements, wherein the plurality of if-then statements comprise a plurality of if portions and a plurality of then portions, the then portions corresponding to potential solutions to the problem. As discussed above, the "then" portion of the if-then statements is disclosed in Grenning merely identify a faulty or suspected cellular telephone (as identified by its MIN) and thus do not

represent potential solutions. Therefore, based on the foregoing, claim 1 is allowable and the rejection of this claim should be withdrawn.

Claims 2-3 and 5 depend from claim 1 and thus specify at least the same features. Therefore, claims 2-3 and 5 are allowable for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1 including the additional features cited therein. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 2-3 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) should also be withdrawn. Amended independent claim 11 specifies similar features as claim 1 and are thus allowable at least for the same reasons as claim 1 including the additional features specified therein. Accordingly, claim 11 is allowable and the rejection of this claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) should be also be withdrawn. Claims 14-15 depend from claim 1 and thus specify at least the same features. Therefore, claims 14-15 are allowable for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 11. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 14-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) should also be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 4, 6-10, 12, and 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grenning in view of Moore. The rejection of these claims is respectfully traversed.

Claims 4 and 6-10 depend from claim 1 and thus specify at least the same features. Claims 12 and 14-15 depend from claim 11 and thus specify at least the same features. As discussed above, claims 1, 11, and 14-15 are allowable over Grenning. Therefore, claims 4, 6-10, and 12 are also allowable over Grenning for at least the same reasons. Moore, relied upon to cure the deficiencies of Grenning, discloses an expert system for the servicing of an elevator system (See col. 2, line 3 - col. 3, line 27). Moore however, fails to teach, disclose, or suggest a plurality of rules comprising a plurality of if-then statements, wherein the plurality of if-then

statements comprise a plurality of if portions and a plurality of then portions, the then portions corresponding to potential solutions to the problem. Since neither Grenning nor Moore, alone or in combination, teach, disclose, or suggest each of the features specified in claims 4, 6-10, 12, and 14-15, these claims are allowable and the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

New Claims

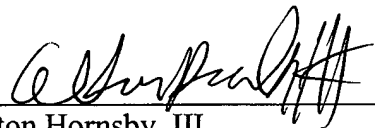
New claim 16 is equivalent to canceled claim 8 rewritten in independent form. Claim 16 specifies similar features as amended independent claim 1 and is thus allowable over the cited art of record for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is now in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call the Applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
MERCHANT & GOULD

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Alton Hornsby, III
Registration No. 47,299

Merchant & Gould, LLC
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
Telephone: 404.954.5100

